



ORGANIZATION CENTER

DATE: August 2, 2010

MEMO NO: ORG—022 REV

DISTRIBUTE TO: All Members
FROM: Organization Center—Renu Debozi
SUBJECT: Information on the October 2010 Introductory Study Exam

On January 25, 2009, President Ikeda shared, **“When we open the Daishonin’s writings, we are bathed in the light of hope.”**

SGI-USA will begin its new study program and examination system starting with the annual Introductory Exam in October 2010. The exam will be for all members and leaders at every level, including those who have successfully completed study levels in past programs. The Introductory Exam will be offered every October for new members, members who have not yet taken it and those working toward a passing grade.

In addition, the three-part Essentials Exam series for leaders will begin in April 2011. With the Introductory and Essentials exam content, all SGI-USA members and leaders will be able to solidify their understanding of the basic history and principles of Nichiren Buddhism along with SGI countries worldwide. *(Please also refer to Study Department Memo ORG-053 dated December 23, 2009).*

September/October Focus: The months of September and October will be focused on study at the district or chapter levels toward the October 2010 Introductory Exam.

Study Exam Dates: Exams can be scheduled at the district and/or chapter level or by language. Ideally, the exam should be scheduled during study week and should not replace the monthly discussion meeting. *(FYI, dates published in the World Tribune listed as Oct 17-25 however exams may naturally be scheduled until Oct 31 throughout study week).*

Study Material/Content:

- Buddhist Terms **(1)** Faith, Practice and Study * **(2)** The Ten Worlds * **(3)** Changing Destiny * **(4)** Nam-myoho-renge-kyo **(5)** The Gohonzon **(6)** The Three Obstacles and Four Devils **(7)*** Benefit in Buddhism
- The Life of Nichiren Daishonin - Parts 1 and 2
- Excerpts from SGI President Ikeda’s Lecture Series: The Teachings for Victory
- Letter from Sado – Parts 1 and 2
- Letter to the Brothers - Part 3
- Soka Spirit
- Three Key Errors of the Nichiren Shoshu Priesthood

Study Material Availability:

Study Guides are available online for English, Spanish, Japanese, Chinese and Korean. Please visit [sgi-usa.org](http://www.sgi-usa.org) - http://www.sgi-usa.org/studyandpubs/study/2010_intro_exam_study_guide/index.php



ORGANIZATION CENTER

Materials are also available by language as listed below:

English – sold as a booklet at all SGI-USA Bookstores for \$2

Spanish - in Sept-Oct issue of *Esperanza*

Japanese insert in July 16th issue of *World Tribune*

Chinese – please see attached list of World Tribune inserts

Korean – please see attached list of World Tribune inserts

Thai and Cambodian – materials will not be published, however, exam questions will be available to the zones prior to exam week for members who prefer to take the exam in these two languages.

Additional Resources/Encouragement:

The July 16 issue of the World Tribune contains President Ikeda's essay on study, encouragement, experiences and details on preparation toward the exam.

For further clarification or support, please contact your local leaders. Thank you for your cooperation. Let's enjoy this wonderful study program together.

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(See attachment for Korean/Chinese resources for material content)



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Attachment

SGI-USA Introductory Study Exam Korean material

Buddhist Concepts

Faith, Practice, Study [Korean World Tribune, 01/16/09, P.12](#)

Ten Worlds [Korean World Tribune, 12/29/06, P.9](#)

Changing Destiny [Korean World Tribune, 04/22/10, P.9](#)

Three Obstacles & Four Devils [Korean World Tribune, 05/21/10, P.5](#)

Nam-Myoho-Renge-Kyo [Korean World Tribune, 06/18/10, P.7](#)

Gohonzon [Korean World Tribune, 06/18/10, P.7](#)

Benefits in Buddhism) [Korean World Tribune, 06/18/10, P.8](#)

The Life of Nichiren Daishonin

[Korean World Tribune, 06/03/05, 5p and 07/01/05, P.6](#)

From “Learning From the Writings of Nichiren Daishonin: The Teachings for Victory”

“Letter from Sado” Installments 1&2 [Korean World Tribune, 10/06/09, 4p and 12/04/09, P.5](#)

“Letter from Sado” Installment 3 [Korean World Tribune, 01/15/10, P.5](#)

“Letter to the Brothers” Installment 4 [Korean World Tribune, 02/05/10, P.3](#)

“Letter to the Brothers” Installments 5 & 6 [Korean World Tribune, 02/19/10, P.4 7 and 03/19/10, P.7](#)

Soka Spirit

Three Key Errors of the Nichiren Shoshu Priesthood (March–April 2010 Living Buddhism, pp. 90–94)

[Korean World Tribune, 10/16/09, P.11](#)

SGI-USA Introductory Study Exam CHINESE Material

Buddhist Concepts

Faith, Practice, Study, Ten Worlds and Changing Destiny [Chinese World Tribune 7/2/2010](#)

Three Obstacles, Four Devils, Nam-Myoho-Renge-Kyo, & Gohonzon [Chinese World Tribune 8/6/2010](#)

Benefit in Buddhism [Chinese World Tribune 9/3/2010](#)

The Life of Nichiren Daishonin

[Chinese World Tribune 9/3/2010](#)

From “Learning From the Writings of Nichiren Daishonin: The Teachings for Victory”

[Chinese World Tribune 10/2/2009 and 3/5/2010](#)

Soka Spirit

[Chinese World Tribune 9/3/2010](#)